

Facts about President Bush's 2005 Budget

- **Provides no action on job creation, with more than 3.8 million women looking for work.** The Bush budget squanders an additional \$1 trillion over the next 10 years on additional tax cuts for the wealthy, but President Bush's budget does nothing to create good-paying jobs here at home.
- **Increases child care waiting lists by hundreds of thousands.** The Child Care and Development Block Grant provides child care assistance for low income families and early education services to our country's most disadvantaged children. In many states, waiting lists for this assistance are tens of thousands of families long. The Bush budget freezes funding for this program for the third consecutive year and cuts child care assistance by an additional 300,000 children by FY 2009. When state TANF expenditures are accounted for, another 150,000 children will be cut. The budget also freezes funding for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program.
- **Cuts funding for Women's Business Centers.** The Bush budget cuts \$500,000 from Women's Business Centers, funded under the Small Business Administration, and provides no increase for the National Women's Business Council.
- **Cuts funding for Violence Against Women programs.** The Bush budget provides only \$362 million for the Violence Against Women Act programs -- a cut of \$22 million below this year's level.
- **Eliminates Women's Educational Equity Act programs.** The Bush budget eliminates Women's Educational Equity Act programs, which fund activities promoting educational equity for girls and women.
- **Breaks the promise of a better education.** More than 10 percent of young women drop out of high school, yet the President's budget eliminates funding for dropout prevention programs. The President's budget fails to provide \$9.4 billion in promised funding for education – meaning that 2.4 million children will not get the help with reading and math they were promised.
- **Closes the door on a college education.** Only 19 percent of women finish their bachelor's degree. Despite nationwide increases in the cost of college, the Bush Administration has frozen funding for Pell Grants and cut funding for Perkins loans by nearly \$100 million.
- **Undermines after-school programs and guts Head Start.** The Bush budget provides only half of the funding promised to after school programs, meaning that 1.3 million children who were promised after-school services will not get them. The President's budget also eliminates the comprehensive educational, health, and

nutrition services that children in Head Start programs currently receive and provides a funding increase of less than 3 percent, even though it currently serves only 60 percent of eligible preschoolers. In Georgia, less than 20 percent of eligible children are enrolled in Head Start.

- **Eliminates Even Start.** The President's budget eliminates the Even Start program, which integrates early childhood education, adult literacy, and parenting education into a unified family literacy program. Currently, 50,000 families are served through the Even Start program.
- **Underfunds Child Health.** The Bush budget freezes funding for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant for Fiscal 2005 at this year's enacted level of \$730 million. It also eliminates the universal newborn hearing screening program. In addition, it freezes funding for the CDC program for the prevention of birth defects and developmental disabilities.
- **More for special interests, not seniors.** Today, 22 million women – one in five adult women – rely on Medicare for basic health insurance protection. Although the Bush budget now includes \$46 billion in special payments to HMOs – \$30 billion more than originally estimated – it does nothing to help seniors lower their prescription drug costs. Despite this, Republicans are refusing to hold down drug costs, refusing to let the government negotiate discounts for seniors, and refusing to allow Americans to import less expensive drugs from Canada.
- **Leaves veterans behind.** There are more than 1.6 million women veterans, as well as millions of mothers and wives waiting for family members to come home. The President's budget raises health care costs for more than 500,000 veterans, imposing new co-payments and enrollment fees that will cost veterans over \$2 billion over five years. In fact, over five years, the budget for veterans health care programs is \$13.5 billion below the amount needed to maintain services at current levels.
- **Eliminates Justice Department program helping victims of human trafficking.** The Bush budget eliminates a \$20 million Justice Department program that assists victims of human trafficking.

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